

TORONTO
ELEMENTARY
CATHOLIC
TEACHERS

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Joseph Martino
Chair, Board of Trustees
Toronto Catholic District School Board
80 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 6E8

Dear Joe:

On behalf of the Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers, I am writing to express our profound regret at the decision made by the Toronto Catholic District School Board to lock out the secondary teachers from their classrooms and worksites.

The Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers believed that a "partial strike" in the secondary schools would have illustrated to parents, students, school administrators and other interested parties the inherent unworkability of the staffing proposals as mandated for the secondary schools under Bill 160.

The Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers hope that the recent announcement from the Minister will allow the parties to this dispute to engage in constructive and positive negotiations concluding with a settlement in the best interests of the entire Catholic school community. As members of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association we firmly believe that the working conditions of teachers are one and the same with the learning conditions of students.

Sincerely,

Joan Guenther
President
Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers

JG/pl

cc: All TCDSB Trustees
All TCDSB Senior Staff
Steve Kirby, President - Toronto Secondary Unit
All Executive Members - Toronto Secondary Unit
Jennifer Lewington/Virginia Galt, Education Reporters - Globe and Mail
Art Chamberlain, Education Reporter - Toronto Star
Moira MacDonald, Education Reporter - Toronto Sun